

County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://cao.co.la.ca.us

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

June 23, 2003

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ISSUES RAISED AT PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Receive and file the attached report containing issues raised at public budget hearings.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Your Board may wish to consider these issues raised at public budget hearings during Budget Deliberations. Since you will be addressing these items at that time, I am recommending you receive and file all issues presented.

Attached is a compilation of issues raised at public budget hearings by oral and written testimony. The majority of the oral testimony concerned the impact of budget reductions affecting the Children and Family Services, District Attorney, Mental Health, Parks and Recreation, Public Library, and Sheriff departments. Written testimony includes individual Supervisor's and departmental requests for additional funding along with private citizens' concerns about budget reductions for elder and dependent adult abuse and the return of Placerita Canyon Natural Area and Castaic Lake Recreation Area to the State of California for operation.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These actions support the County's Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors June 23, 2003 Page 2

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

No fiscal impact.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Not applicable.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID E. JANSSEN

Chief Administrative Officer

DEJ:DIL

JW:AHW:vyg

Attachments

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors

County Counsel Auditor-Controller

SPEAKER	DEPARTMENT/AFFILIATION	TOPIC
David Sanders, Ph.D., Director	Children and Family Services	Discussed Alternative Uses of MacLaren Net County Cost; which include:
		 To provide additional support for hard-to-place kids
		 To put together components of a better-functioning placement process.
John Oppenheim, Chief Deputy	Children and Family Services	Explained Alternative Uses of MacLaren Net County Cost, which include:
		Permanency Teams
		Office of Medical Director
		Team Decision Making Program
		 Family Group Decision Making Program
		Triage Teams
		 Family Resource and Reception Centers
		Public Wraparound Program
		 Wrap-around Infrastructure Expansion
		 Group Supervisors
		 MacLaren Unavoidable Costs
		Below is additional information that was also discussed regarding the MacLaren Center closure:
		 Discussed plans to reduce the average length of stay in out-of- home care to produce substantial savings to reinvest in managerial improvements.
		 Informed the Board that the Department is hopeful to retain the MacLaren Title IV-B funding.
		 Plans to establish a diligent

search unit to locate relatives at

SPEAKER	DEPARTMENT/AFFILIATION	TOPIC
		beginning of the process.
Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W., Director	Mental Health	Department of Mental Health (DMH) Budget:
,		Discussed issues related to AB3632 program to serve Seriously Emotionally Disturbed (SED) kids. Issues include: deferral of payments; non- reimbursed costs to contract providers; insufficient funding and plan for Education to take a larger funding role.
		 Discussed seeking support to use unexpended Tobacco Settlement funds to reimburse contractors.
		 Discussed \$10.0 million curtailment plan including a reduction in services to indigent children by replacing County General Fund with Healthy Families revenue to serve indigent youth.
		 Discussed the issue of the family financial responsibility for the premium payment required in order to receive services from the Healthy Families Program.
		 Discussed working with State on the SB90 reimbursement issues
		 Explained curtailments to contract providers.
		 Discussed the in-patient service: agreement between Mental Health and the Department of Health Services.
		 DMH is committed to finding ways to fund 130 beds, a key component of the overall system of care.

SPEAKER	DEPARTMENT/AFFILIATION	TOPIC
Bruce Saltzer, Executive Director	Association of Community Human Services Agencies (ACHSA)	Department of Mental Health (DMH) Budget: Opposed to the \$4.5 million curtailment for uninsured children for fiscal year 2003-04 Believes that the curtailment can be prevented. Suggested DMH has funds to prevent cuts by using one-time funding to avoid curtailments.
Dr. Kita Curry, Board Director	ACHSA	Mental Health Budget:
Gladys Lee (spoke for Dr. Susan Mandel)	Pacific Clinics	 Mental Health Budget: Opposed to curtailment of \$700,000 for Pacific Clinic in fiscal year 2003-04. Spoke regarding alternatives to the budget curtailments for DMH Pacific Clinics agreed to use available funds for Healthy Family premiums.
Shirley Carter	SEIU Local 660	Public and Social Services Budget: Voiced concerns about proposed cuts to CalWORKs and General Relief eligibility staff. Raised concerns about limited clerical support to In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program. Voiced concerns related to Los Angeles Eligibility, Automated Determination, Evaluation and Reporting (LEADER) system.

SPEAKER	DEPARTMENT/AFFILIATION	TOPIC
		Recommended cuts to contracts as an alternative.
Lawrence Hill	SEIU Local 660	Child Support Budget: Voiced concerns regarding the State's cuts to the Child Support Program allocation and concerns about contractors' profits.
Ramon Rubalcava	SEIU Local 660	Discussed concerns on service reductions and policies. Suggested renegotiating or canceling contracts.
Tim Gallagher, Director	Parks and Recreation	 Discussed the transfer of State owned Castaic Lake and Placerita Canyon Natural Area and the elimination of the trail crew. Continuation of discussion with the State on identifying funding sources for State owned facilities, specifically, Castaic Lake. Informed Board that two other Public Agencies have expressed interest in keeping Placerita Canyon Natural Area open after July 1, 2003 if the State cannot continue operation. Engaged in negotiation with L.A Conservation Corps who is willing to provide up to a quarter million dollars in trail maintenance services. The County has not closed any trails, but is absorbing the maintenance of those trails in with the remaining staff within the department.

SPEAKER	DEPARTMENT/AFFILIATION	TOPIC
Greg Brown	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget:
	City of La Canada	 Opposed to the elimination of the trail crew in the Department of Parks and Recreation.
		 Concerned that the trail crew has been cut twice since 1990.
		 Believes that the entire trail department should not be eliminated; spread the pain.
Mary Barrie, President	La Canada Flintridge Trails	Parks and Recreation Budget:
	Council	 Opposed to the elimination of the trail crew in the Department of Parks and Recreation.
		 Requested funding for fiscal year 2003-04 for Trails Maintenance.
Liz Blackwelder	Private Citizen City of La Canada	 Parks and Recreation Budget: Opposed to the elimination of the trail crew in the Department of Parks and Recreation. Pointed that La Canada Flintridge became one of the top trailed towns in the United States.
Linda Palmer, Former President	Santa Monica Trails Council	Parks and Recreation Budget: Opposed to the elimination of the trail crew in the Department of Parks and Recreation. Trails will not be safe and will begin to close if funding is cut.
Rosa Lavega, Superintendent	Arroyo Seco City of Pasadena	Parks and Recreation Budget: Opposed to the elimination of the trail crew in the Department of Parks and Recreation. Does not believe that the California Conservation Corporation (C.C.C.) Group will do a good job maintaining the park because of their inexperience.

SPEAKER	DEPARTMENT/AFFILIATION	TOPIC
Deborah Stevens	Private Citizen Antelope Valley Trails	Parks and Recreation Budget: Opposed to the elimination of the trail crew in the Department of Parks and Recreation.
Bob Lewis	Private Citizen Castaic Lake Town Council	Parks and Recreation Budget: Opposed to the return of Castaic Lake to the State of California. Believes that the County's cost of operating the Lake in Placerita Canyon Natural Area is \$1.7 million and not \$3.1 million. Does not believe that the State will maintain the Lake in the same manner as the County.
Tere Tucker	Private Citizen Castaic Chamber of Commerce	 Parks and Recreation Budget Opposed to the return of Castaic Lake to the State of California. Citizens are set to raise money for the Lake. Believes Parks and Recreation should spread the loss between the County and not just Parks and Recreation.
Kathy Ochoa	SEIU Local 660	 Department of Health Services Budget: Urges the County to adopt only the Status Quo Provisions of the Budget during the Final Budget Deliberations Additional funding has been received from the County since the passage of Measure B and federal and State agreement on L.A. County Health, therefore, the County should redesign the Proposed Budget. Opposes Scenario III cuts and would like them restored. Discussed various options as to how DHS could restore those cuts.

SPEAKER	DEPARTMENT/AFFILIATION	TOPIC
Gordon Stefenhagen, Chair	Library Commission	Public Library Budget: • Requested continual assistance of \$7.0 million to keep our
Councilman	Norwalk City Council	 of \$7.0 million to keep our libraries open and functioning. Closure of a large regional library such as Norwalk will impact neighboring communities. Requested a more stable book budget should the State cut the Public Library Fund (PLF) grants for books and materials. Commission is working on options for permanent financing
Margaret Donnellan Todd,	Public Library	of County libraries. Public Library Budget:
County Librarian	T done Library	Discussed the need to curtail basic services if the \$7.3 million General Fund assistance is not provided as no other peripheral programs or reserves can be reduced.
		 Governor has proposed further cuts to the PLF money which is used to fund books and materials. Another \$1.6 million cut will leave only \$2.4 million for books and materials.
		 Proposed curtailments as described in a report to the Board include: closing 15.0 libraries and one bookmobile, and reducing hours at all remaining facilities.
		 Proposed closures are spread across districts and determined based on size and use of each library.
		 Supervisor Knabe requested information on operating cost of a bookmobile.

SPEAKER	DEPARTMENT/AFFILIATION	TORIO
3FEARER	DEPARTMENT/AFFILIATION	TOPIC
		 Supervisor Burke requested information on property tax revenue for certain cities. Areas where a large percentage of library services are paid by property tax revenue should be given some opportunity to make up the difference.
Warren Williams	Coalition for Blacks' Best Interest	 Would like funding of \$500.0 million for a Service Center in Los Angeles. Would like the CAO to go back and redirect the budget to fund this program. Believes the funding would solve the problems in the African American population.
Douglas Barnett	Coalition for Blacks' Best Interest	 2003-04 Proposed Budget: Supports various programs for the Second Supervisorial District and supports the Coalition for Blacks' Best Interest.
Rahaimaj Asubian-Brinkley, Executive Director	Cultural Reflections Productions Co., LTD.	 Proposed Budget: Requesting support for an educational arts telecommunication facility Requesting a hospital, ambulance training Discussed the environment and conditions of the County jail Supports the Coalition for Blacks' Best Interest.
Ruth Chiquita	Summers Burgess Payne	 2003-04 Proposed Budget: Supports various programs for the Second Supervisorial Distric Supports the Coalition for Blacks' Best Interest.
Richard Robinson	Private Citizen	Sheriff's Budget: • Need for Deputy Sheriffs

SPEAKER	DEPARTMENT/AFFILIATION	TOPIC
Heidi Webber, Treasurer	Placerita Canyon Nature Center Association	Parks and Recreation Budget: Oppose returning Placerita Canyon Natural Area to the State. County can save revenue through volunteers. Potential closure of community programs and relocation of park employees if Placerita Canyon Natural Area is returned to the State.
Bill Webber	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget: Opposed closure of Placerita Canyon Natural Area

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
Steve Cooley, District	District Attorney	District Attorney (DA) Budget:
Attorney		 Requested Board to excuse DA from \$4.6 million in curtailments for fiscal year 2003-04.
		 Discussed Salary Savings as a problem at 13% and requested the Department's calculation to be reviewed.
		 If asked to curtail, Specialized units will be affected (cases will still be prosecuted, but quality will be seriously affected).
		 Stated about 150.0 positions have been cut from the budget since December 2000, without any back- fill in staff services personnel.
		 Discussed Workers' Compensation is an issue, with a \$1.9 million increase for fiscal year 2003-04 (about \$10.0 million in the last five years).
		 Not asking Board for more money, but to override CAO suggested curtailments.
Lee Baca, Sheriff	Sheriff Department	Sheriff's Budget:
Paul Tanaka, Chief		 Believes that the Sheriff's Department can meet the CAO's 2003-04 Proposed Budget.
		 Informed the Board that the curtailment amount for 2003-04 is \$82.4 million.
		 Sheriff's Department will use the Academy to recover the loss of personnel due to attrition, retirement, etc.
		 Informed the Board that the total number of sworn employee is in the range of mid 8,000s.

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
		 Provided the Board with a plan that addresses the rising costs of workers' compensation, retiree health insurance, long-term disability, and previously unfunded positions.
		 Three Sheriff stations are under the pilot project for timecard system implementation.
		 Sheriff provided the Board with the detail of various budget requests.
		 Current 2003-04 curtailment is at \$75.0 million (instead of the \$82.4 million previously stated). The Proposed Budget does not reflect an estimated \$7.0 million reduction in State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) reimbursement revenue.
Steve Remige	Association for Los Angeles	Public Safety Budget:
	Deputy Sheriffs	 Urged the Board to prioritize and fund vitally important Public Safety programs.
		 Urged the Board to avoid cuts in Public Safety.
Warren Williams	Coalition for Blacks' Best	2003-04 Proposed Budget:
	Interest	 Opposed DCFS funding the cost of using Adelman's Parking Lot.
		 Requested \$50.0 million funding in 2003 and 2004 for D.A.R.E. festiva
Jesse Barbour	Private Citizen	2003-04 Proposed Budget:
		 Requested the Board to consider a \$17.0 million budget request for Performing Arts.
David Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer	Chief Administrative Office	Discussed Litigation cost and Risk Management Information System (RMIS) implementation:

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
Lloyd Pellman, County Counsel J. Tyler McCauley, Auditor-	County Counsel Auditor-Controller	 The CAO provided to the Board on 5/13/03, a document that explains RMIS and the development status along with the related costs.
Controller		Discussed Litigation cost and RMIS implementation:
		County Counsel provided to the Board on 5/20/03 a report on actual costs of litigation, judgments, etc for last year, current year, and the projection for next year.
		 The anticipated implementation timeframe of the RMIS is July or August.
		 \$3.5 million is set aside in PFU in 2002-03 for litigation costs and recommends keeping such funding through the end of the fiscal year.
Lloyd Pellman, County	County Counsel	County Counsel Budget:
Counsel		 Suggested placing 5% of anticipated litigation cost reduction into a designation account.
		 Will start implementation of Auditor- Controller's recommendation on July 1, 2003.
Rahimaj Asubian-Brinkley,	Cultural Reflections	2003-04 Proposed Budget:
Executive Director	Productions Co., LTD	Requesting a committee be formed for the Sheriff's Department to recommend hiring and firing of deputies and support for the proposal.
		support for the proposal submitted by the Coalition for Blacks' Best Interest.
William Campbell	Private Citizen	Sheriff's Budget:
		 Statement regarding Sheriff's Department budget.

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
Ted Hayes	Private Citizen	2003-04 Proposed Budget:
		 Requesting support and funding for the proposal of the Coalition for Blacks' Best Interest.

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
Gloria Molina, Supervisor	First District	2003-04 Proposed Budget:
		 Supervisor Molina is not recommending funding new programs. If the Public Library Fund (PLF) is restored in the State Budget. Supervisor Molina request that the County provide the funds necessary to meet the maintenance of effort and direct those funds for the provision of library materials.
Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair of the Board,	Second District	Additional program funding for the following departments:
Supervisor		Public Library
		Probation
		 Health Services
		 Regional Planning
		 Community and Senior Services
		Arts Commission
		 Consumer Affairs
		 National History Museum
		Capital projects, deferred maintenance, and refurbishment funding for the following departments:
		Public Library
		Sheriff
		 Public Social Services
		Mental Health
		 Health Services
		 Parks and Recreation
		 Senior Center at Ladera Park
		Consideration of funding for Rent Mediation Board to review issues related to affordable housing/rent

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
		stabilization.
		Provide additional resources to support management Audit recommendations to improve park management.
		Additional funds for establishment of a formal ongoing RFP response-training academy for small agencies who wish to provide services.
,		Funding to expand the Emergency Response Team Program offered at the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to improve service access.
Zev Yaroslavsky, Supervisor	Third District	Additional program funding for the following departments:
		Restoration of funding for CHP administrative services.
		 Creation of budgeted positions for a CHP development manage and staff.
		 Allocation of 33% of CHP tangible net equity for CHP program development and improvements.
		 Elimination of the General Relief shared housing penalty.
		 Creation of an Ombudsman for each DPSS office.
·		 Expansion of the GROW program to allow GR recipients classified as "unemployable" to participate.
		 Expansion of benefits provided through the Eviction Assistance

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
		program. • Assistance and support to relative caregivers who are not in compliance with the federal standards for dependent children placed in relatives' homes.
		 Provision of necessary and appropriate services to dependent children with special needs.
		 Creation of Family Resource Centers.
		 Funding for DCFS' Family Group Decision Making program, including meals.
		 Funding of case management, Auditor-Controller's contract monitoring pilot project and LACAS implementation.
Don Knabe, Supervisor	Fourth District	Additional program funding for the following departments:
		 Funding for the conversion of Rancho Los Amigos to a non- profit institution.
		 Fourth District Arts Education Enrichment Program
		Arts Commission
		Beaches and Harbors
		Chief Administrative Office
		Community and Senior Services
		 Community Development Commission
		Consumer Affairs
		 Coroner
		 County Counsel
		District Attorney

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
		Economic Development
		• Fire
		 Health Services
		 Homeland Security
		Mental Health
		 Military and Veterans Affairs
		 Museums
		 Ombudsman
		 Parks and Recreation
		Probation
		Public Library
		 Public Works
		Regional Planning
		Registrar-Recorder
		Sheriff
		 Funding of additional parking officers for the unincorporated areas.
Michael D. Antonovich, Supervisor	Fifth District	Additional program funding for the following departments:
		 District Attorney
		 Parks and Recreation
		Probation
		Sheriff
Steve Cooley, District Attorney	District Attorney	Restoration of funding for the following programs:
•		 Family Violence
		Hate Crimes
		 High Tech Crimes
		Quality of Life
		Asian Gangs and Arson
		Administrative Support Positions
		 Environmental Crimes

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
		 Elder Abuse and Sex Crimes DA Roll Out Program Justice System Integrity Division
Sharon R. Harper, Chief Deputy	Chief Administrative Office	Filing of the 2003-04 Proposed Budget documents.
Laura Zucker, Executive Director	Arts Commission	 Additional funding for the following: Restore \$334,000 NCC reduction in grant funds Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration
		 Funding for State Local Partnership Program
Pastor Herrera, Jr., Director	Consumer Affairs	Requesting additional funding for the following:
P. Michael Freeman, Fire Chief	Fire Department	 Additional funding for the following: Securing Measure B funding for critical pre-hospital trauma care and transportation and terrorism preparedness Restoration of \$2.1 million which will fund 18.0 lifeguard positions and increase services an supplies
Tim Gallagher, Director	Parks and Recreation	 Additional funding for the following: Junior Golf Program \$345,000 for ADA compliance No curtailment of \$256,000 for two-week pool closure End operating agreement with State Parks

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer	Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors	Parks and Recreation Budget: • Received 331 letters from
		concerned citizens regarding Department of Parks and Recreation recommendation to return Placerita Canyon Natural Area and Castaic Lake Recreation Area to the State for operation.
4		Continuation of Parks and Recreation Budget:
		 Two-hundred seventeen of the letters also site a concern about the allocation of park bond measure funds intended for Placerita Canyon Natural Area.
Michael J. Henry, Director	Human Resources	Additional funding for the following: Unmet Needs of \$3,063,000 to provide enhancements to core Human Resources programs
		 Additional funding of \$292,000 for Job Listing Opportunities Program and Printing Employee Handbooks.
John D. White, Interim Chief	Office of Public Safety	Additional funding for the following: • Additional \$256,000 in Overtime
		 Vehicle Maintenance and Repair
James E. Hartl, AICP,	Regional Planning	Additional funding for the following:
Director		 New Permit Tracking System Implementation (eDAPTS)
		 Restoration of Public Counter Field Offices Counseling
		Environmental Review/Guidelines
		 Zoning Code Streamlining and Updating

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
		Community Plan Update
		 Zoning Consistency to General Plan
•		Certificates of Compliance
		 Strategic Workforce Planning and Data Base Administration
Mark J. Saladino, Treasurer and Tax	Treasurer and Tax Collector	Treasurer and Tax Collector Budget:
Collector		Requested restoration of \$1,550,000 in salaries and employee benefits by not eliminating 31.0 budgeted positions related to the following programs:
		 Restore 3.0 budgeted positions in the Treasury Program.
		 Restore 18.0 budgeted positions in the Tax Collection Program.
		 Restore 8.0 budgeted positions i the Administrative Program.
		 Restore 2.0 budgeted positions i the Unincorporated Program.
Barbara H. Linski, Executive	Assistance League of	District Attorney Budget:
Director	Southern California, Hollywood Senior Multipurpose Center	 Opposed to budget reduction of Elder Abuse Program in District Attorney's Department.
Kevin Crowell	LIFE Services, Inc.	District Attorney Budget:
		 Opposed to budget reduction of Elder Abuse Program in District Attorney's Department.
Jennifer Shelstead	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget:
,		 Opposed to possible closure of Placerita Canyon Natural Area.
Elizabeth G. McMahon	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget:
		 Ensuring that park bond measure funds are distributed to the intended beneficiaries for Placerita Canyon Natural Area.

Speaker	Department/Affiliation	Topic
Alison Tiper	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget:
		 Opposed to possible closure of Placerita Canyon Natural Area.
Mara Prutting	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget:
		 Opposed to possible closure of Placerita Canyon Natural Area.
Suzanne McClure	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget:
		 Opposed to possible closure of Placerita Canyon Natural Area.
Carolyn Oppenheimer,	San Fernando Valley	Parks and Recreation Budget:
President	Audubon Society	 Opposed to possible closure of Placerita Canyon Natural Area.
Patricia Fergo	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget:
		 Opposed to possible closure of Placerita Canyon Natural Area.
Lorrie Kurowski	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget: Opposed to possible closure of Placerita Canyon Natural Area.
Marilyn Keehn	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget: Opposed to possible closure of Placerita Canyon Natural Area.
Julie David	Private Citizen	Parks and Recreation Budget: Opposed to possible closure of Placerita Canyon Natural Area.
Kathy Salazar, Mayor	City of Montebello	Parks and Recreation Budget: Opposed to Trail Maintenance cuts.